

REMARKS

Review and reconsideration of the Office Action of November 7, 2003 is respectfully requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

In accordance with the Examiner's suggestion, the claims have been amended.

The claims have been amended to conform the claims to USPTO requirements.

Care has been taken that no new matter is added.

Therefore, the claims currently pending are claims 46-90.

Reference will now be made to the numbered paragraphs of the Detailed Action of the above-referenced Office Action.

Paragraphs 1-3 (Claim Rejections)

The Examiner rejects claims 46-90 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter.

Applicant appreciates the Examiner's helpful comments and Applicant has amended the claims accordingly. Entry is respectfully requested. Care has been taken to ensure that no new matter is added.

Paragraph 4 (Allowable Subject Matter)

The Examiner acknowledges that claims 46-90 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejections set forth above.

Applicant is appreciative of the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter, and Applicant has amended the claims accordingly. Entry is respectfully requested. Care has been taken to ensure that no new matter is added.

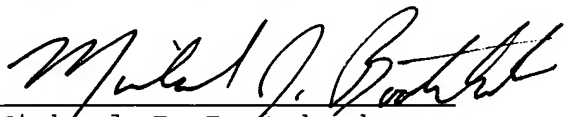
U.S. Application No.: 10/019,422
AMENDMENT A

Attorney Docket: 3827.083

The Examiner cites, but does not apply, several references.
Applicant has no further comments.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested. Favorable consideration and early issuance of the Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. Should any points remain prior to issuance of a Notice of Allowance, Applicant requests the Examiner to telephone the undersigned at the below listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,


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Registration No. 52,636


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Date: **January 15, 2004**

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING AND AUTHORIZATION TO CHARGE

I hereby certify that the foregoing AMENDMENT A for U.S. Application No. 10/019,422 filed December 20, 2001, was deposited in first class U.S. mail, postage prepaid, addressed: Attn: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on **January 15, 2004**.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees, which may be required at any time during the prosecution of this application without specific authorization, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 16-0877.


Michael J. Bootcheck